

Spatially Selective Active Noise Control Systems

Tong Xiao,^{1, a} Buye Xu,^{2, b} and Chuming Zhao^{2, c}

¹*Centre for Audio, Acoustics and Vibration, University of Technology Sydney,
NSW 2007, Australia*

²*Meta Reality Labs Research, Redmond, WA 98052, USA*

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1 Active noise control (ANC) systems are commonly designed to achieve maximal sound
2 reduction regardless of the incident direction of the sound. When desired sound is
3 present, the state-of-the-art methods add a separate system to reconstruct it. This
4 can result in distortion and latency. In this work, we propose a multi-channel ANC
5 system that only reduces sound from undesired directions, and the system truly pre-
6 serves the desired sound instead of reproducing it. The proposed algorithm imposes
7 a spatial constraint on the hybrid ANC cost function to achieve spatial selectivity.
8 Based on a six-channel microphone array on a pair of augmented eyeglasses, results
9 show that the system minimized only noise coming from undesired directions. The
10 control performance could be maintained even when the array was heavily perturbed.
11 The proposed algorithm was also compared with the existing methods in the litera-
12 ture. Not only did the proposed system provide better noise reduction, but it also
13 required much less effort. The binaural localization cues were not needed to be re-
14 constructed since the system preserved the physical sound wave from the desired
15 source.

^aTong.Xiao@uts.edu.au

^bxub@meta.com

^cchumingz@meta.com

16 I. INTRODUCTION

17 Active noise control (ANC) systems have seen many significant advancements over the
18 past few decades. Notably, many personal ANC headphones, aiming to eliminate the un-
19 wanted noise for users, have emerged and gained much success in the market due to their
20 excellent performance and robustness (Chang *et al.*, 2016). Other ANC systems, such as
21 ANC headrests (Elliott *et al.*, 2018; Xiao *et al.*, 2020) and ANC windows (Lam *et al.*, 2020;
22 Wang *et al.*, 2017), have also seen significant improvements over the years. These ANC
23 systems have been designed to attenuate all the sound in the environment. One emerging
24 application is using ANC to enhance face-to-face conversations in a noisy environment, e.g.,
25 a cocktail-party scenario, where one hopes to minimize the surrounding noises while still
26 maintaining the conversations in front of the user. An intelligent ANC system should sep-
27 arate and categorize sounds coming from various directions. The desired sound should be
28 maintained for the user while noises coming from other directions are minimized.

29 The goal of this work is to develop a spatially selective ANC system that preserves
30 sound coming from the desired directions while reducing noise from other directions. The
31 filtered-reference least-mean-square (FxLMS) algorithm is commonly used in these systems
32 for adaptive control due to its simplicity and robustness (Elliott, 2000; Hansen *et al.*, 2012;
33 Kuo and Morgan, 1996). Any signals observed by the reference microphones (or error
34 microphones in the feedback systems) will be fully controlled regardless of the residual
35 noise spectrum at the error microphones. So far, most effort in the ANC systems has been
36 devoted to improving the noise reduction level throughout the spectrum as much as possible.

37 In recent years, some studies have considered the spatial aspect of personal ANC systems.
38 Studies (Cheer *et al.*, 2019; Liebich *et al.*, 2018; Rafaely and Jones, 2002; Zhang and Qiu,
39 2014) have showed that the performance in ANC headphones and earphones was affected
40 by the time advance between the reference and the error microphones in the feedforward
41 configurations. The ANC performance was the best when the time advance was the most
42 significant. However, these systems were studied to further improve the control performance
43 when dealing with direction- and/or time-varying noises. They were not designed for spatial
44 noise selection.

45 There are systems, which were not intentionally designed, that can be modified to achieve
46 spatial selection functionality. For example, the coherence-based selection method (Shen
47 *et al.*, 2021) can potentially be used to determine the direction of arrival (DOA) of the
48 noise, which can then be isolated. The selective fixed-filter method (Shi *et al.*, 2020, 2022)
49 and the deep ANC method (Zhang and Wang, 2021) can be extended to selecting spatial
50 filters to control noise coming from certain DOAs. However, these systems still possess
51 issues. The coherence-based selection method requires the input signals to be distinguished
52 enough to offer differences in the coherence functions. Thus, it may be limited to certain
53 spread-out array configurations, e.g., an array distributed in a room. The selective fixed-
54 filter method and the deep ANC method require the system to be pre-trained to obtain the
55 optimal filters in advance. These two methods also require the spatial information to be
56 acquired elsewhere and thus resulting in additional computations. These systems are not
57 yet the best solutions for a spatially selective ANC system.

58 To achieve spatial selectivity, it is common to use the beamforming technique. Beam-
59 forming is a well-established method of designing spatio-temporal filters for array process-
60 ing (Doclo *et al.*, 2015; Van Trees, 2002; Van Veen and Buckley, 1988). For personal devices,
61 a certain number of microphones can be used to differentiate sound from different directions.
62 Hearing aids typically employ it to improve speech intelligibility for the hearing impaired.
63 Studies have incorporated the ANC functionality to control the leakage sound in open-fitting
64 systems, which improves the insertion signal-to-noise-ratio (SNR) gain of the multi-channel
65 Wiener filter (MWF) (Dalga and Doclo, 2011; Serizel *et al.*, 2010). Serizel *et al.* (2010)
66 used the feedforward ANC to control the leakage noise, while Dalga and Doclo (2011) fur-
67 ther improved the result by using the hybrid control due to its better ANC performance.
68 However, the desired sound in the leakage is canceled (together with the noise) and then
69 added back to the error signal with a delay. Recent work in (Patel *et al.*, 2020) proposed a
70 structure for a pair of hear-through ANC headphones. The microphones were grouped for
71 different purposes independently, i.e., ANC and beamforming, and the desired sound from
72 the beamformer was injected into the secondary sources.

73 The studies from above can be improved regarding the following three aspects:

- 74 1. **Control effort** Current studies require canceling both noise and the desired sound
75 first, and then reproducing this desired sound again. Thus, the control effort can be
76 significant.
- 77 2. **ANC performance** When an adaptive ANC system needs to reduce both noise and
78 the desired sound, the attenuation of the noise may be degraded because the desired

79 sounds, e.g., speech and music, are often non-stationary, which can drive the adaptive
80 system to sub-optimal states.

81 **3. Distortion to the desired sound** When the desired sound needs to be reconstructed
82 and reproduced acoustically, it introduces latency and is prone to different types of
83 distortions, e.g., undesired frequency shaping or binaural cue distortion for ear-level
84 devices.

85 These aspects lead to the question, “Instead of minimizing the noise plus the desired sound,
86 and then adding the desired sound once again, can the system control only the noise but
87 not the desired sound?”

88 This article, based on the previous work ([Xu and Miller, 2019](#)), proposes a spatially se-
89 lective ANC system that only controls the unwanted noise while leaving the desired physical
90 sound unaltered. The proposed algorithm is derived based on the hybrid ANC architec-
91 ture when both the reference and the error signals can be used as inputs for both ANC
92 and the spatial constraint at the same time to optimize the performance. The constraint
93 vector describing the frequency response of the signal from the desired DOA at the error
94 microphone will make sure the desired signal component is physically preserved rather than
95 reconstructed to avoid the aforementioned three issues.

96 II. PROPOSED SPATIALLY SELECTIVE ANC SYSTEMS

97 A. Signal definition and cost function

98 Without losing generality, we assume there is one desired sound source and multiple noise
99 sources in the scene (see Fig. 1). The ANC system contains a total of K microphones, one
100 of which serves as an error microphone. One error microphone with one secondary source
101 is used in the derivation hereinafter for notation brevity, but it can be easily extended to
102 cases with multiple sources and/or microphones. The disturbance signal, $d(n)$, at the error
103 microphone with ANC disabled includes two components,

$$d(n) = s(n) + v(n), \quad (1)$$

104 where $s(n)$ and $v(n)$ are the desired signal and the noise signal, respectively, and n denotes
105 the time index. We assume that the two signals come from different locations and there is
106 one desired source for now.

We write the error signal $e(n)$ of the hybrid ANC system in *matrix multiplication form*
as (Hansen *et al.*, 2012)

$$e(n) = d(n) + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{x}(n) \quad (2a)$$

$$= \tilde{\delta}^T \mathbf{x}(n) + \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{x}(n) \quad (2b)$$

$$= \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}(n), \quad (2c)$$

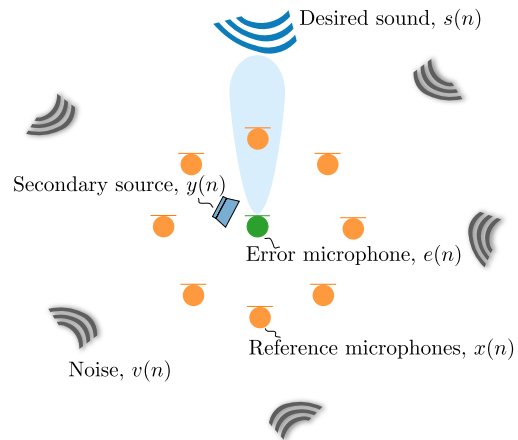


FIG. 1. Concept diagram of a spatially selective ANC system *preserving* the desired sound from one direction and using a secondary source to control noise from other directions at the error microphone (one shown here for demonstration).

where

$$\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^{KL} = [\mathbf{w}_1^T \ \mathbf{w}_2^T \ \dots \ \mathbf{w}_K^T]^T, \quad (3a)$$

$$\mathbf{w}_k \in \mathbb{R}^L = [w_{k0} \ w_{k1} \ \dots \ w_{k(L-1)}]^T, \quad (3b)$$

$$\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{KL \times KL} = \text{diag}(\hat{\mathbf{G}} \ \hat{\mathbf{G}} \ \dots \ \hat{\mathbf{G}}), \quad (3c)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{G}} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times L} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{g}_0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \hat{g}_1 & \hat{g}_0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \hat{g}_2 & \hat{g}_1 & \hat{g}_0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \hat{g}_{L-1} & \hat{g}_{L-2} & \hat{g}_{L-3} & \dots & \hat{g}_0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3d)$$

$$\mathbf{x}(n) \in \mathbb{R}^{KL} = [\mathbf{x}_1^T(n) \ \dots \ \mathbf{x}_{K-1}^T(n) \ \hat{\mathbf{d}}^T(n)]^T, \quad (3e)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_k(n) \in \mathbb{R}^L = [x_k(n) \ x_k(n-1) \ \dots \ x_k(n-L+1)]^T, \quad (3f)$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{d}}(n) \in \mathbb{R}^L = [\hat{d}(n) \ \hat{d}(n-1) \ \dots \ \hat{d}(n-L+1)]^T, \quad (3g)$$

$$\tilde{\delta} \in \mathbb{R}^{KL} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}^T & \dots & \mathbf{0}^T & \delta^T \end{bmatrix}^T, \quad (3h)$$

$$\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{KL} = \tilde{\delta} + \mathbf{G}\mathbf{w}, \quad (3i)$$

108 where \mathbf{w}_k is the control filter with L length for the k -th channel ($k = 1, 2, \dots, K$). Su-
 109 perscript $(\cdot)^T$ denotes the transpose, and hat accent $\hat{\cdot}$ represents the estimated value. $\hat{\mathbf{G}}$ is
 110 the Toeplitz matrix of $\hat{\mathbf{g}}$, which is the estimation of the secondary path impulse response.

111 We assume that it agrees well with the actual one, i.e., $\hat{\mathbf{g}} = [\hat{g}_0 \hat{g}_1 \dots \hat{g}_{L-1}]^T \approx \mathbf{g}$. This
 112 assumption holds in many situations and will be made hereinafter. $\delta = [1 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0]^T$ is the
 113 Dirac delta function. $\hat{\mathbf{d}}(n)$ is the vector of the estimated past values of the disturbance
 114 signal $\mathbf{d}(n)$. At the time $n + 1$, and after when the ANC is enabled, it is recovered from the
 115 error signal $e(n)$ as

$$\hat{d}(n + 1) = e(n) - \hat{\mathbf{g}}^T \mathbf{y}(n), \quad (4)$$

116 where $y(n)$ is the secondary source signal (Kuo and Morgan, 1996).

117 The spatial selection functionality is achieved by applying a spatial constraint on the
 118 cost function of a traditional ANC system. From Eq. (2), the spatial constraint for a single
 119 desired source can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}, \quad (5)$$

120 from the Frost algorithm (Frost, 1972). Matrix \mathbf{H} consists of the relative impulse responses
 121 (ReIRs) of the array, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{KL \times L} = [\mathbf{H}_1 \ \mathbf{H}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{H}_K]^T, \quad (6)$$

122 where \mathbf{H}_k is the Toeplitz matrix from $\mathbf{h}_k = [h_{k0} \ h_{k1} \ h_{k2} \ \dots \ h_{k(L-1)}]^T$, which is the ReIR
 123 between the k -th microphone and a chosen reference microphone (the one closest to the
 124 desired source). Vector $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}^L$ is a constraint vector that describes the frequency response
 125 of the signal from the desired direction at the error microphone. It is defined as

$$\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{h}_K = [h_{K0} \ h_{K1} \ \dots \ h_{K(L-1)}]^T. \quad (7)$$

126 With ANC enabled, compared with the disturbance signal in Eq. (1), the error signal will
 127 also contain two components,

$$e(n) = e_s(n) + v_{\text{ANC}}(n), \quad (8)$$

128 where $e_s(n)$ is the residual desired signal and $v_{\text{ANC}}(n)$ is the residual noise. By choosing the
 129 appropriate reference channel for \mathbf{H} and the vector \mathbf{f} that corresponds to the direction of
 130 interest, the proposed system will reduce only the noise, $v(n)$, to $v_{\text{ANC}}(n)$. The constraint
 131 vector \mathbf{f} in Eq. (7) can enable the system to preserve the original desired sound component
 132 at the error microphone, i.e., $e_s(n) = s(n)$, instead of reconstructing it as in (Dalga and
 133 Doclo, 2011; Patel *et al.*, 2020; Serizel *et al.*, 2010).

Finally, the cost function of the proposed system can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{w}} E \{e^2(n)\} &= \min_{\mathbf{w}} E \{\mathbf{u}^T \Phi_{\mathbf{xx}} \mathbf{u}\} \\ &= \min_{\mathbf{w}} E \left\{ (\tilde{\delta} + \mathbf{G}\mathbf{w})^T \Phi_{\mathbf{xx}} (\tilde{\delta} + \mathbf{G}\mathbf{w}) \right\} \\ &\text{s.t. } \mathbf{H}^T (\tilde{\delta} + \mathbf{G}\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{f}, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

134 where $\Phi_{\mathbf{xx}} \in \mathbb{R}^{KL \times KL} = E \{\mathbf{x}(n)\mathbf{x}^T(n)\}$ is the autocorrelation matrix of the tap-stacked
 135 input vector, operator $E\{\cdot\}$ denotes mathematical expectation.

136 B. Optimal solution

The optimal solution can be found by setting the gradient of the cost function to zero and solving the Lagrange multipliers $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^L$ (Haykin, 2002). The derivation of such an optimal solution can be found in appendix A, where the solution is provided in Eq. (A4). It

can be re-written in the following form for interpretation,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{w}_{\text{opt}} = & -\Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1}\phi_{\mathbf{r}d} \\
& + \Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1}\mathbf{G}^T\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{H}^T\mathbf{G}\Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1}\mathbf{G}^T\mathbf{H} + \rho\mathbf{I})^{-1}\mathbf{f} \\
& - \Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1}\mathbf{G}^T\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{H}^T\mathbf{G}\Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1}\mathbf{G}^T\mathbf{H} + \rho\mathbf{I})^{-1} \\
& \quad \left(\mathbf{H}^T\tilde{\delta} - \mathbf{H}^T\mathbf{G}\Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1}\phi_{\mathbf{r}d}\right), \tag{10}
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathbf{r}(n) = \mathbf{G}^T\mathbf{x}(n), \tag{11a}$$

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}} = E\{\mathbf{r}(n)\mathbf{r}^T(n)\} + \beta\mathbf{I}, \tag{11b}$$

$$\phi_{\mathbf{r}d} = E\{\mathbf{r}(n)d(n)\}. \tag{11c}$$

137

138 This optimal solution has three terms. The first term is the Wiener solution of a hybrid
139 ANC system controlling all the observable sounds. The second term is due to the spatial
140 constraint, which is similar to the beamformer solution in (Frost, 1972), but the secondary
141 path matrix \mathbf{G} is added due to the physical constraint of the ANC system. The third term
142 provides the coupling of the two subsystems. All three terms contribute to calculating the
143 control filter \mathbf{w} such that only the noise from the undesired directions is minimized. The
144 residual desired signal component in the residual error signal after control is the original de-
145 sired physical sound left unaltered by the proposed system. Further details about preserving
146 or reconstructing this desired physical sound will be emphasized in Section IV.

147 Note that matrix $\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \Phi_{rr}^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H}$ is rank deficient due to \mathbf{G} being rank deficient. (There
 148 are delays in the secondary paths.) Thus, a Tikhonov regularization factor ρ has been
 149 applied to the diagonal elements to make it invertible (Tikhonov and Arsenin, 1977).

150 Note that Eq. (11b) has also been added with a regularization factor β compared to
 151 Eq. (A4), which is equivalent to adding a penalty term, the l_2 norm of the control filter
 152 $\|\mathbf{w}\|_2$ in Eq. (9). This is essentially the leaky version of the algorithm for a more robust
 153 ANC system (Cartes *et al.*, 2002; Elliott *et al.*, 1992). The robustness of the system will be
 154 further discussed in Section II E.

155 C. Adaptive solution

156 Commonly, adaptive algorithms are used to reduce computations and handle fast envi-
 157 ronmental changes. The derivations of the adaptive solution in the proposed method can be
 158 found in appendix B. The final solution is expressed as

$$\mathbf{w}(0) = \mathbf{q}, \quad (12a)$$

159

$$\mathbf{w}(n+1) = \mathbf{P} [\mathbf{w}(n) - \mu \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{x}(n) e(n)] + \mathbf{q}, \quad (12b)$$

where

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} + \gamma \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G}, \quad (13a)$$

$$\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} + \gamma \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{H}^T \hat{\delta}), \quad (13b)$$

160 and μ is the step-size. Fig. 2 illustrates the block diagram of the proposed adaptive spatially
 161 selective ANC system.

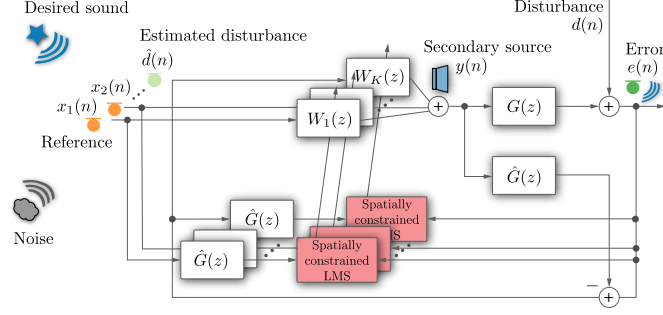


FIG. 2. Block diagram of proposed spatially selective ANC system. The adaptive hybrid ANC algorithm is spatially constrained.

162 Notice that the solution is coupled by the adaptive algorithm in the ANC subsystem
 163 and the adaptive Frost algorithm. The spatial constraint in Eq. (9) resulted in \mathbf{P} and
 164 \mathbf{q} . Without it, the solution would become $\mathbf{w}(n+1) = \mathbf{w}(n) - \mu \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{x}(n) e(n)$, which is a
 165 traditional adaptive hybrid ANC solution minimizing the overall error signal (Elliott, 2000;
 166 Hansen *et al.*, 2012).

167 Notice that a regularization factor γ in Eq. (13) has been added compared to Eq. (B5).
 168 Similarly to the optimal solution, although the matrix $\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H}$ is invertible due to the use of
 169 ReIRs, that is, there is always an identity matrix in \mathbf{H} , matrix $\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H}$ is rank-deficient.
 170 Therefore, γ has been added for inversion.

171 D. Spectral weighting

172 In some cases, spatial filtering alone may not be sufficient due to limitations of the array,
 173 e.g., filter length, array configuration. To deal with this, the proposed method can be further

174 improved by applying a spectral weighting filter, i.e.,

$$\mathbb{F} \in \mathbb{R}^L = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{h}_K \quad (14)$$

175 instead of \mathbf{f} in Eq. (7). $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times L}$ is the Toeplitz matrix of the impulse response of the
176 spectral weighting filter to attenuate the frequency range that is not of interest. Note that
177 \mathbf{S} is a digital filter, which can be designed to be minimum-phase. A non-minimum-phase
178 filter is not desired since it leads to delays in the error signal.

179 This technique is performed provided that the frequency range attenuated by the spectral
180 filter has little overlap with that of the desired signal. Otherwise, one needs to consider the
181 trade-off between noise reduction and signal distortion.

182 E. Robustness

183 Robustness is an important factor to consider. The robustness issues in ANC systems can
184 be contributed by non-stationary inputs, low SNR, and/or secondary path changes ([Cartes](#)
185 [et al., 2002](#); [Elliott, 2000](#)). Many beamforming systems are subject to numerical and/or spa-
186 tial robustness issues arising from signal mismatches, which are due to mismatches between
187 the presumed and actual relative transfer functions ([Gannot et al., 2017](#); [Vorobyov, 2013](#)).
188 We will mainly focus on the numerical robustness issue due to signal mismatches herein.

189 For the proposed joint optimization problem, the robustness of the system can be from
190 the following aspects:

- 191 1. Robustness of the ANC subsystem
- 192 2. Robustness of the beamforming subsystem

193 3. ANC affects the beamforming subsystem

194 4. Beamforming affects the ANC subsystem (due to signal mismatches)

195 The former two aspects can be easily understood since each subsystem can inherently
196 have its own robustness issues. The solutions to these issues can also be easily found in
197 many studies. For example, the ANC subsystem can use a leaky algorithm constraining
198 $\|\mathbf{w}\|_2$ in the cost function (Cartes *et al.*, 2002; Tobias and Seara, 2004). As for a robust
199 beamformer, the diagonal loading method can be used. This is achieved by constraining
200 the white noise gain (WNG) $\|\mathbf{u}\|_2$ in the cost function (Cox *et al.*, 1987; Li *et al.*, 2003;
201 Vorobyov, 2013).

202 The latter two issues are due to the joint optimization of ANC and beamforming. The
203 third issue arises from the secondary paths in ANC systems, particularly the delays from
204 the acoustic propagation and the electronics. They can be coupled with the beamforming
205 constraints resulting in an adverse effect, e.g., the rank deficiency of \mathbf{G} as discussed previ-
206 ously. Regularization factors ρ and γ have been added to solve the problem (Hansen, 2010;
207 Tikhonov and Arsenin, 1977).

208 As for the fourth aspect, the beamforming constraint can be unstable due to signal
209 mismatches and thus affect the ANC performance. This is similar to designing a robust
210 beamformer. Constraining the WNG in the cost function can stabilize the system. The
211 optimal solution presented previously has been applied with the regularization factor β for
212 robustness (Cox *et al.*, 1987; Vorobyov, 2013).

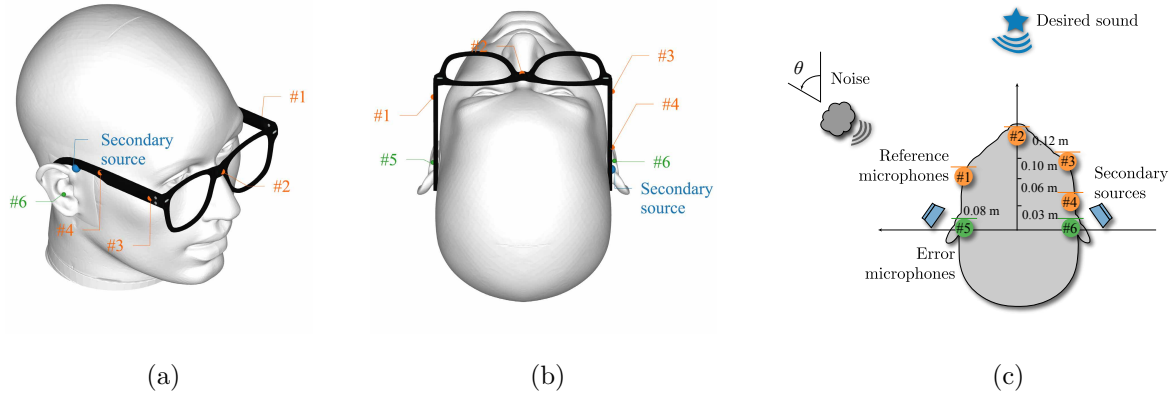


FIG. 3. (a) The isometric view and (b) the top view of a KEMAR manikin with a pair of AR glasses with a six-microphone array. (c) Microphone setup.

213 III. NUMERICAL SIMULATION ON AUGMENTED REALITY (AR) GLASSES

214 In this section, we put the proposed algorithm in a pair of open-fitting AR glasses.

215 A. System setup

216 A six-channel system from the EasyCom dataset (Donley *et al.*, 2021) is shown in Fig. 3.
 217 The four microphones in the frame (labeled as #1 to #4) can be used for the reference
 218 microphones. For each ear, the corresponding binaural microphone (labeled as either #5
 219 or #6) was used as the error microphone. The single-ear (right side) system is considered
 220 in this article for brevity, but it can be easily extended to a binaural case. The control
 221 performance at microphone #6 is focused hereinafter.

223 It was assumed that the desired speech was at $\theta = 0^\circ$ and the noise source was at $\theta = 60^\circ$.
 224 The desired signal was a 20-second male speech (Acclivity, 2006). The noise was a speech
 225 babble noise from the NOISEX-92 database (Varga and Steeneken, 1993). The noise level

226 was adjusted such that the original clean speech was not intelligible when mixed, i.e., the *a*
 227 *priori* SNR was -13.2 dB. The waveforms and the spectrograms of the clean speech and the
 228 noisy speech can be seen in Figs. 4a and 4b, respectively. These signals were influenced by
 229 the KEMAR manikin (Burkhard and Sachs, 1975) and the glasses. The frequency response
 230 of the acoustic secondary path was acquired from the COMSOL Multiphysics software,
 231 where the secondary source was simulated as a perfect point sound source and was located
 232 at about 0.05 m above the error microphone #6 as shown in Fig. 3a. In this article, we
 233 assumed that the sound source was not constrained by transducer characteristics (such as
 234 excursion limit and transducer resonance), and the response of the electrical control system
 235 and the transducers could be modeled with pure delays. The sampling rate was 48 kHz,
 236 and the filter length $L = 768$. The secondary path delay had ten samples (208.3 μ s), which
 237 included both the acoustic propagation delay and the electronics delay in practice.

239 B. Performance metrics

240 To quantitatively evaluate the control performance, the noise reduction (NR) level of the
 241 ANC system is defined as

$$\text{NR} = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{E \{v^2(n)\}}{E \{v_{\text{ANC}}^2(n)\}} \right), \quad (15)$$

242 where the NR level should be as high as possible.

243 In addition, the speech distortion index (SDI) (Chen *et al.*, 2006) is used to monitor any
 244 potential distortion in the residual speech component, and it is calculated as

$$\text{SDI} = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{E \{[s(n) - e_s(n)]^2\}}{E \{s^2(n)\}} \right), \quad (16)$$

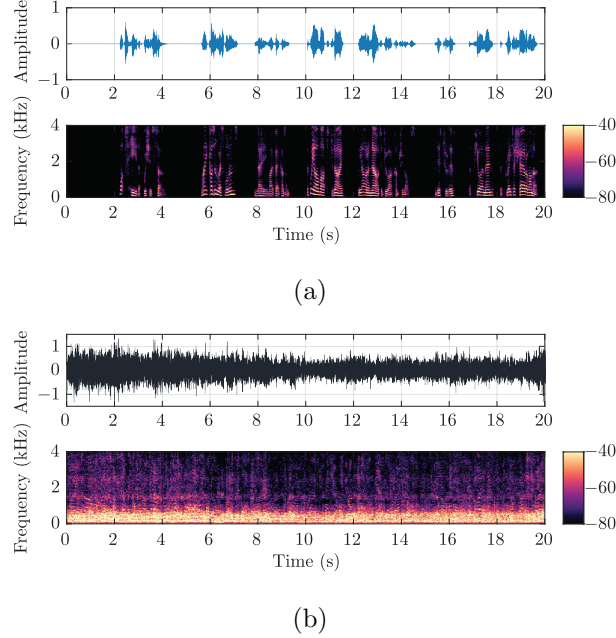


FIG. 4. Waveforms and spectrograms of (a) the desired clean speech and (b) the noisy speech at the error microphone.

245 where $e_s(n)$ should match $s(n)$ as much as possible, and thus the SDI value should be as
 246 small as possible.

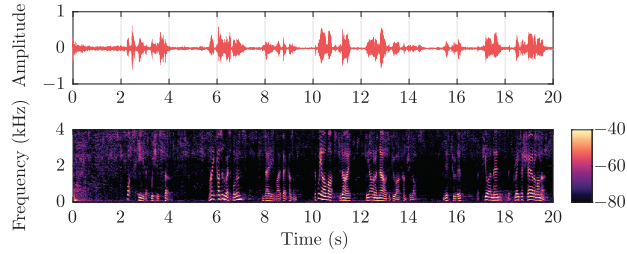
247 Signals $e_s(n)$ and $v_{\text{ANC}}(n)$ can be decoupled by recording the history of the control filter
 248 \mathbf{w} , which is then used to re-filter either the desired speech signal or the noise. For example,
 249 one can nullify the desired speech signal while maintaining the noise to observe the NR level.
 250 Similarly, one can observe the SDI value by nullifying the noise. This method is only used
 251 to quantitatively evaluate the components in the error signal in this article. In reality, the
 252 desired signal and the noise are unknown. It is typical to estimate them at different time
 253 intervals in speech processing and then estimate the NR levels and the SDI values.

254 C. Control performance

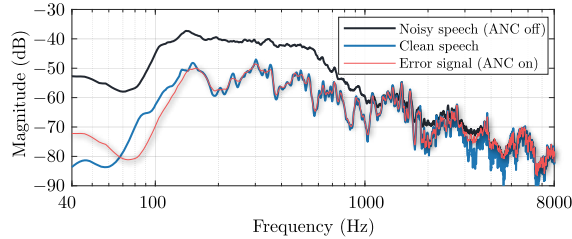
255 The step-size μ used in the simulation was a variable step-size (VSS) to ensure the
256 system with a fast convergence speed and small misadjustment for the desired speech sig-
257 nal (Aboulnasr and Mayyas, 1997). The parameters chosen for calculating the VSS were:
258 $\mu_{\max} = 0.0001$, $\mu_{\min} = 0.000008$, $\alpha_{\text{VSS}} = 0.99998$, $\gamma_{\text{VSS}} = 0.00001$ and $\beta_{\text{VSS}} = 0.99999$. The
259 regularization factor γ in Eq. (13) was chosen to be 0.0001. A minimum-phase high-pass
260 filter with a cut-off frequency at 140 Hz was applied as the spectral weighting filter discussed
261 in Eq. (14).

262 The waveform and the spectrogram of the residual error signal are shown in Fig. 5a.
263 After ANC was enabled using the proposed method, the noise component was considerably
264 attenuated within the first two seconds, leaving only the desired speech signal in good
265 agreement with the original clean speech in Fig. 4a overall.

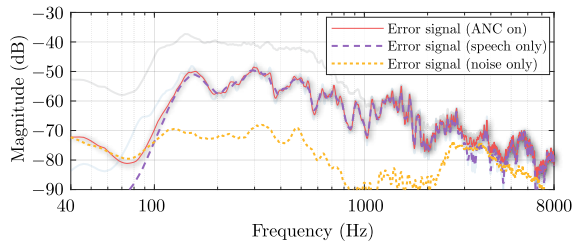
267 The spectra of the noisy speech, the clean speech and the total residual error signal with
268 ANC enabled are shown in Fig. 5b. Although the spectrum of the error signal followed
269 the majority of the clean speech, there was still some minor residual noise below 100 Hz.
270 As shown in Fig. 5c, decoupling the speech and the noise components as described in Sec-
271 tion III B confirms that the system was mainly bound by the ANC subsystem. From the
272 last 10 s of the signals, the SNR has been improved from -13.9 dB to 15.2 dB in total,
273 which enhanced the unintelligible speech significantly. The NR level was 29.1 dB, and the
274 SDI value was shown to be -25.1 dB above 100 Hz. The SDI was low enough for the listener
275 not to notice any undesired distortion.



(a)



(b)



(c)

FIG. 5. (a) Waveform and the spectrogram of the error signal with ANC enabled. (b) Spectra of the noisy speech, the clean speech, the total error signal with ANC enabled, and (c) the decoupled speech and noise components in the error signal. The spectra are from the last 10 s period.

276 D. Spectral weighting

277 As discussed in Section IID, the performance of the spatial constraint may be sub-optimal
 278 due to either an insufficient number of channels or limited filter lengths. Fig. 6 shows
 279 the control performance without the spectral weighting filter. The error signal cannot be
 280 controlled adequately below 100 Hz. The reason can be found by performing the hybrid
 281 ANC and the Frost algorithms separately with the same six microphones. Although the

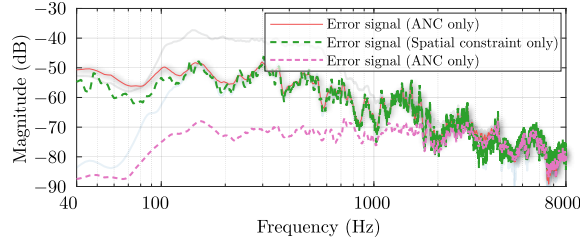
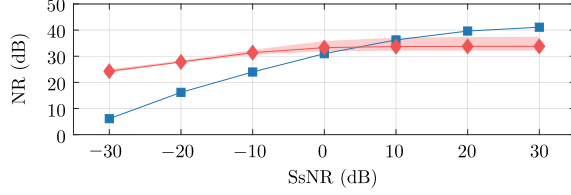


FIG. 6. Spectra of the error signal from the proposed method, the error signal from the spatial constraint only and from the ANC system only after control *without* using the minimum-phase high-pass filter with a cut-off frequency at 140 Hz.

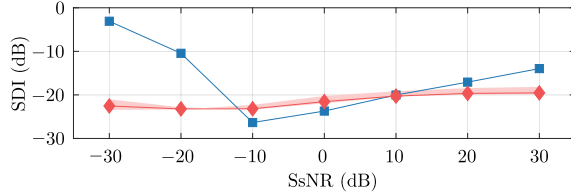
282 ANC subsystem can reduce the noise across the spectrum using the hybrid control, the
 283 spatial constraint cannot below 100 Hz due to the limited length of the filters. Therefore, it
 284 is necessary to use the spectral weighting method.

286 E. Robustness

287 This part follows the system robustness discussions in Section II E. We mainly examine
 288 how sensor noise (signal mismatches) from the beamforming constraint affects the ANC
 289 system and the control performance. To examine the robustness of the system, sensor noise
 290 was added to some channels, e.g., microphone #1, #3, #4 and #5. It is common to model
 291 the sensor noise as Gaussian white noise (Van Trees, 2002) with the power of σ_n^2 . The
 292 signal-to-sensor-noise-ratio (SsNR) at microphone #5 was used to represent different levels
 293 of sensor noise. The optimal solution in Eq. (10) was used to calculate the ANC control
 294 filter. Here, we show the importance of β and ρ for the robustness of the system.



(a)



(b)

FIG. 7. (a) The NR level and (b) the SDI value of the error signal with respect to different SsNRs.

The blue square marks are the results by choosing $\beta = \rho = 10\sigma_n^2$. The red diamond marks are the results by choosing $\beta = \lambda_{\max}^1/10000$ and $\rho = \lambda_{\max}^2/10000$. The shaded areas represent the results with the ratio from 5000 to 50000.

295 Beamforming problems typically follow the rule of $10\sigma_n^2$ to choose the regularization
 296 factor (Li *et al.*, 2003; Shahbazpanahi *et al.*, 2003; Vorobyov *et al.*, 2003). Fig. 7 (blue
 297 square mark) shows the NR and SDI results of the proposed ANC system using $\beta = \rho = 10\sigma_n^2$
 298 under different SsNRs. The problem with this method is that, for example when the sensor
 299 noise is small, e.g., SsNR = 30 dB, β and ρ are too small to have a regularization effect.
 300 Although the noise can be significantly reduced (NR = 41.1 dB), the desired speech is also
 301 highly distorted (SDI = -14.0 dB). On the other hand, when the sensor noise is great, e.g.,
 302 SsNR = -30 dB, β and ρ are very large and can over-regulate the system. The system can
 303 neither control noise sufficiently (NR = 6.1 dB), nor retain the original desired speech (SDI
 304 = -3.1 dB).

305 We show that β and ρ can be chosen depending on the largest eigenvalue of the matrix to
 306 be inverted. Assume the largest eigenvalues of $E \{ \mathbf{r}(n)\mathbf{r}^T(n) \}$ and $\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H}$ are λ_{\max}^1
 307 and λ_{\max}^2 , respectively. Typically, the ratios between λ_{\max}^1 and β and between λ_{\max}^2 and ρ
 308 depend on different systems. Here, we found that the ratio between 5000 and 50000 had
 309 good results. The performance under this range is shown in Fig. 7 with shaded areas, and
 310 the result with $\beta = \lambda_{\max}^1/10000$ and $\rho = \lambda_{\max}^2/10000$ is depicted as an example (red diamond
 311 mark). It is obvious the system performance has been maintained well across different levels
 312 of sensor noise. Particularly when the input signals have been disastrously perturbed, i.e.,
 313 SsNR = -30 dB, the system could still exhibit good behavior. The NR level had 24.3 dB
 314 and the SDI was maintained at -22.5 dB. Thus, by choosing the regularization factors based
 315 on the largest eigenvalue instead of the sensor noise power, the proposed system can achieve
 316 a good result even with extreme cases of sensor noise.

317 F. Directivity

318 The direction-dependent NR performance of the demonstrated AR glasses ANC system
 319 is shown in Fig. 8a for different frequency bands. In this experiment, the desired sound
 320 source is fixed at the 0 degree angle, and a pink noise source is placed at various angles in
 321 the horizontal plane. The optimal solutions were calculated.

322 At the desired direction $\theta = 0^\circ$, all signals were maintained including the noise. The
 323 NR performance was the best at $\theta \in (30^\circ, 150^\circ)$. The noise could be reduced by at least
 324 20 dB. Low frequencies, e.g., below 500 Hz, had more than 30 dB reduction. The system
 325 had an unsatisfactory performance at $\theta \in (150^\circ, 300^\circ)$. This was due to the ANC capability

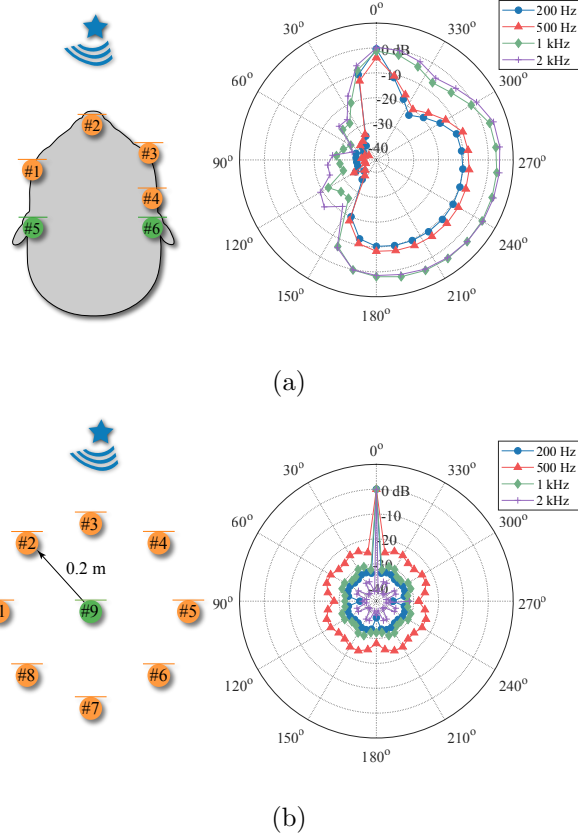


FIG. 8. Directivity plot of the residual noise at the error microphone #6 for a single noise source by (a) the demonstrated AR glasses configuration and (b) a system with eight reference microphones in a circular formation with an error microphone #9 at the center for the pink noise.

326 of the specific microphone array configuration. In these directions, the noise reached the
 327 error microphone first and then the reference microphones. Thus, the system causality was
 328 violated and only the feedback subsystem was in operation, which was only effective below
 329 500 Hz with about 10 dB reduction. High frequencies were slightly increased due to the
 330 waterbed effect (Skogestad and Postlethwaite, 2005).

331 One of the potential solutions is to decrease the delay in the secondary path, which mainly
 332 depends on the electronic components in the device. Another way is to adjust the array
 333 configuration. As shown in Fig. 8b, eight reference microphones are in a circular formation

334 with an error microphone at the center. Although ideal, it demonstrated that it is possible
335 to cancel noise in every direction except for the desired direction if the causality of the ANC
336 subsystem can be maintained. Depending on the specific application, the array design will
337 change, and the directivity pattern will change accordingly.

338 IV. COMPARISON WITH EXISTING METHODS

339 One unique feature of the proposed method is to truly preserve the original desired
340 physical sound rather than reconstruct it. The results from the proposed method will be
341 compared with the ones from the previous works (Dalga and Doclo, 2011; Patel *et al.*, 2020;
342 Serizel *et al.*, 2010).

343 We would like to highlight the fact that the previous works had been developed for differ-
344 ent systems with different ANC and beamforming algorithms. For ANC, Serizel *et al.* (2010)
345 and Patel *et al.* (2020) used the feedforward configuration, while Dalga and Doclo (2011)
346 used the hybrid control. For the beamforming, Serizel *et al.* (2010) and Dalga and Doclo
347 (2011) used the MWF, while Patel *et al.* (2020) used the superdirective beamformer. For
348 consistency in this article, we evaluated all the methods for the aforementioned open-fitting
349 AR glasses with the fixed six-array microphones. The monaural setup at microphone #6 is
350 still generally considered for simplicity of discussion. For a fair comparison, the hybrid ANC
351 control and the Frost algorithm were used for all the cases. The optimal solutions were also
352 computed for most cases, except Section IV B. *The main goal for the comparison was to see*
353 *how the desired signal was obtained (e.g., reconstructed or preserved) in these systems, and*
354 *their implications.*

355 The three configurations were configured as follows:

356 1. For (Dalga and Doclo, 2011; Serizel *et al.*, 2010), the ANC and beamformer modules
357 can be *partially coupled*. Microphones #1 to #6 were used for ANC, and two micro-
358 phones (#2 and #4) were also used as the beamforming array. The extracted signal
359 from the beamformer had 1 ms delay, and the gain was 0 dB as provided by Serizel
360 *et al.* (2010). The extracted signal was added to the error signal [see Fig. 5 in (Serizel
361 *et al.*, 2010)].

362 2. For the *decoupled* configuration by Patel *et al.* (2020), microphones #1, #3 were used
363 as the reference microphones for the ANC subsystem, and microphones #2 and #4
364 were used as the beamforming array. The other error microphone #5 was not available
365 to control #6. Note that such a decoupled configuration requires dedicated reference
366 microphones with error microphones for ANC (microphone #1 with #5 for the left
367 channel ANC, #3 with #6 for the right). Thus, only microphones #2 and #4 are left
368 for the beamformer. The extracted signal from the beamformer had 5 ms delay. The
369 extracted signal was added to the secondary source [see Fig. 3 in (Patel *et al.*, 2020)].

370

371 3. The proposed method, as described in the previous section.

372 The aforementioned three aspects - control effort of the secondary source, control perfor-
373 mance for multiple noise sources and binaural localization cues and latency of the desired
374 sound - are discussed below.

375 **A. Control effort**

376 Fig. 9a shows the secondary source signal $y(n)$ in the three systems when the desired
 377 speech was at 0° , the pink noise was at 60° , and the *a priori* SNR was 0 dB. It is clear
 378 that the secondary source signals in the partially coupled and the decoupled configurations
 379 contained the desired speech. These systems needed to cancel both the desired speech and
 380 noise first and then reconstruct and reproduce the desired speech. It is even more so for
 381 the decoupled configuration since the desired speech needs to be directly injected into the
 382 secondary source signals [see Fig. 3 in (Patel *et al.*, 2020)]. On the contrary, the one from
 383 the proposed method was only for the noise, indicating it controlled the noise only and thus
 384 preserving the original desired speech.

385 Another way for confirmation is to compare the control effort for various *a priori* SNRs.
 386 We used the secondary source energy $E\{y^2(n)\}$ instead of $\|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2$ since the former provides a
 387 clearer physical representation (Elliott, 2000, p. 147). The relative energy consumption \mathcal{E}_y
 388 in percentage was calculated as

$$\mathcal{E}_y = \frac{E\{y^2(n)\}}{E\{y_{\text{ref}}^2(n)\}} \times 100\%, \quad (17)$$

389 where $E\{y_{\text{ref}}^2(n)\}$ is the mean-square of the secondary source signal in (Dalga and Doclo,
 390 2011; Serizel *et al.*, 2010) for a time period (e.g., 20 seconds) as the reference.

391 The energy of the secondary source and the corresponding NR levels are shown in Figs. 9b
 392 and 9c, respectively. When the noise level was high, e.g., SNR = -15 dB, the energy
 393 difference was small since most energy was devoted to controlling the noise for all cases.
 394 The NR levels were also similar. However, as the desired speech became more and more

395 prominent, the difference became more and more apparent. For example, when SNR =
396 10 dB, the environment is relatively quiet. The other two configurations still used a vast
397 amount of energy. Particularly, the decoupled configuration used 50% more energy than the
398 partially coupled due to better control performance. (The reason for this will be discussed
399 in the next subsection.) These systems see the desired speech as “noise” too and attempt
400 to cancel it first, and then try to reconstruct the desired speech once again.

401 On the other hand, the proposed algorithm barely needed to change the original desired
402 signal as illustrated in the time domain in Fig. 9a. It required only 2% energy while yet
403 achieving a better NR level than the partially coupled configuration. These results further
404 confirm that the proposed system only reduces the noise and truly *preserves* the desired
405 sound.

407 B. Noise attenuation for multiple noise sources

408 The ANC performance comparison of the three configurations has been partially demon-
409 strated for a single noise in Fig. 9c. A more practical situation is that the noises are from
410 multiple directions. In this case, the uncorrelated pink noise was set coming from five di-
411 rections $60^\circ, 90^\circ, 120^\circ, 300^\circ$ and 330° with the same level, while the DOA of the desired
412 speech remained to be from 0° and other configurations were kept the same. Fig. 10a shows
413 the overall error signal. The proposed system had the closest result to the desired clean
414 speech. The noise and the speech components in the error signal can be decoupled for
415 further observations.

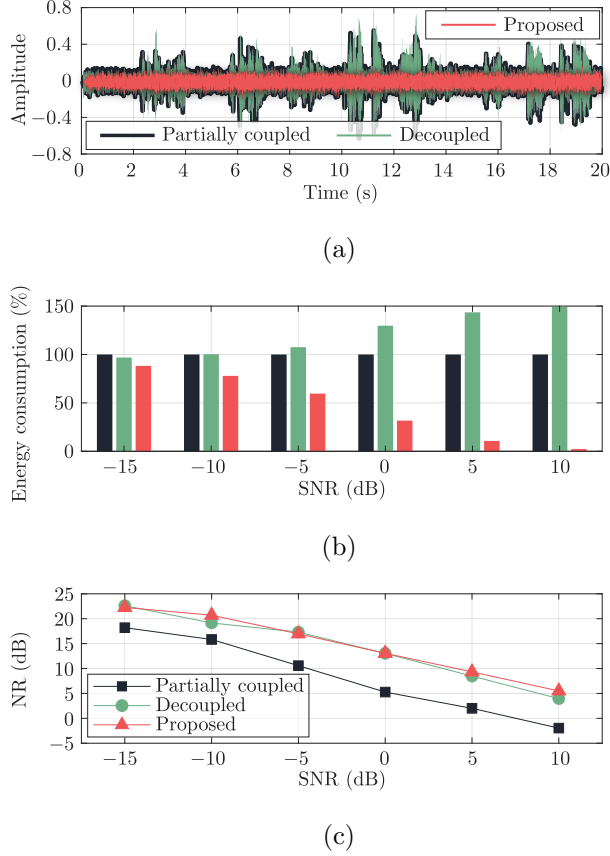


FIG. 9. (a) Secondary source signals from the three configurations when the *a priori* SNR = 0 dB. (b) Relative secondary source energy consumption, and (c) the NR levels for different *a priori* SNRs.

416 The noise components in the error signal are shown in Fig. 10b. For the other two
 417 configurations, which tried to cancel both the desired speech and noise, more microphones
 418 (in the partially coupled configuration) can lead to a worse performance. The desired speech
 419 in the input signal can result in a greater eigenvalue spread of the correlation matrix of the
 420 input signal, thus limiting the step-size and causing a slower adaption speed (Haykin, 2002).
 421 The maximum step-size before making the system diverge for the partially coupled system
 422 was 0.00004, whereas the one for the decoupled was 0.00008. Thus, configuration 2 had a

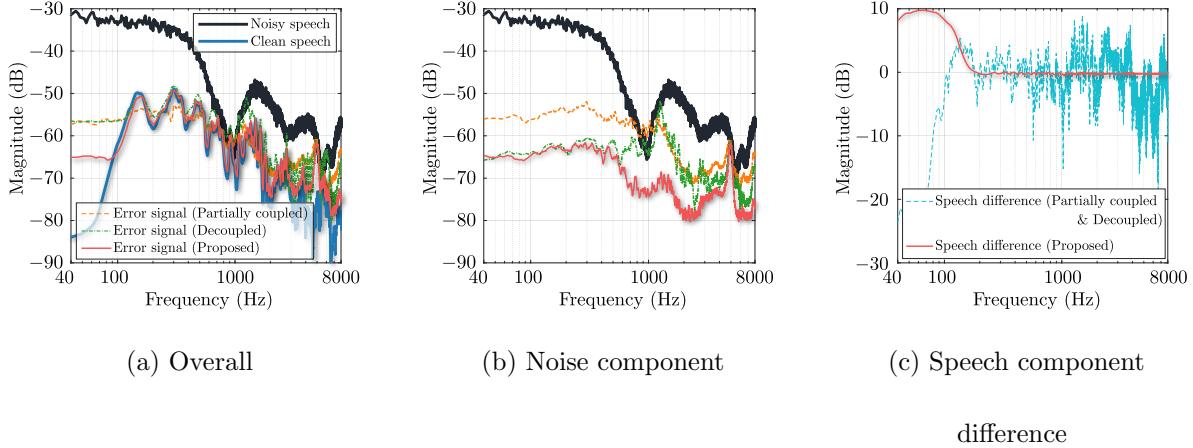
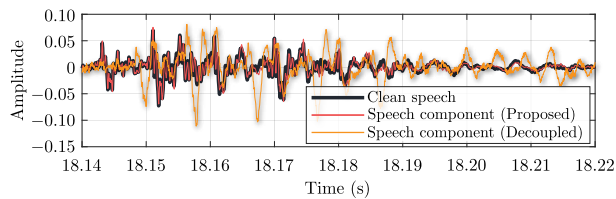


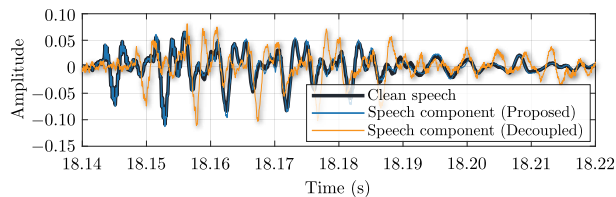
FIG. 10. Spectra of the noisy speech, the clean speech, (a) the overall error signals, (b) the noise components in the error signals and (c) the speech component differences compared to the clean speech in the error signals with ANC enabled in the three configurations. The spectra are from the last 10 s period.

423 better ANC performance in both Figs. 9c and 10b. The proposed configuration did not
 424 need to cancel the speech. Thus, it has the best NR performance.

425 The speech component differences compared to the original clean speech are shown in
 426 Fig. 10c. The other two systems used the same array for signal extraction, thus having
 427 the same result. The reconstructed desired speech from these systems had about ± 10 dB
 428 difference compared to the clean speech in general. On the other hand, the proposed system
 429 did not have this issue since it left the original desired physical sound unaltered. Thus, the
 430 difference above 140 Hz was essentially zero. The difference below 140 Hz was due to the
 431 spectral weighting filter as discussed previously. This range did not cause any noticeable
 432 auditory distortion.



(a) Left ear (microphone #5)



(b) Right ear (microphone #6)

FIG. 11. Waveforms of the clean speech at the error microphone and the speech components in the error signals from the decoupled and the proposed systems at two ears. The desired sound is at 60° and the noise comes from 0° .

433 C. Binaural localization cues and latency

434 When the desired sound comes from other directions than 0° , binaural localization cues
 435 should be enabled for the user. The DOA of the desired speech was moved to 60° , whereas
 436 the pink noise came from 0° instead.

437 Fig. 11 shows the waveforms of the speech components in the decoupled and the proposed
 438 systems compared to the clean speech at two ears. The result in the partially coupled system
 439 was the same as the decoupled but with 1 ms delay instead of 5 ms. The partially coupled
 440 and the decoupled systems had the reconstructed desired signals at microphone #4. Unless
 441 a binaural beamformer was used, the binaural localization cues were lost. This is also
 442 shown in Fig. 12 in the frequency domain. When the DOA of the desired source is at 60° ,
 443 the spectral property of the reconstructed desired signal at microphone #4 may be similar

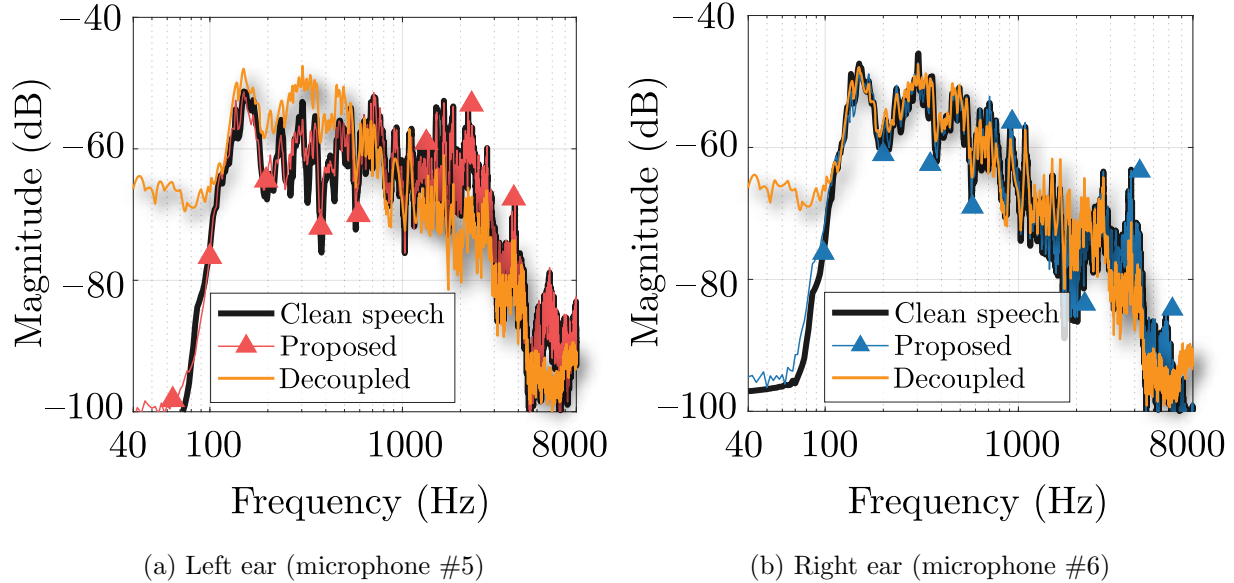


FIG. 12. Spectra of the clean speech at the error microphone and the speech components in the error signals from the decoupled and the proposed systems at two ears. The desired sound is at 60° and the noise comes from 0° .

444 to that of microphone #6 due to their close proximity, though only between 100 Hz and
 445 2 kHz as shown in Fig. 12b. For the left side, the reconstructed signal is monaural and still
 446 at microphone #4, which is significantly different than that of microphone #5 across the
 447 spectrum as shown in Fig. 12a.

448 On the other hand, it is apparent that the speech component in the error signal from
 449 the proposed system agreed with the original clean speech very well, in both time and
 450 frequency domains. This once again confirms that the proposed system can preserve the
 451 natural binaural localization cues since it left the desired physical sound unaltered.

452 V. REMARKS & FUTURE DIRECTIONS

453 For the purpose of brevity, it was assumed that there was one desired source through-
454 out this article. For multiple desired sources from different directions, multiple spatial con-
455 straints can be added to the cost function in Eq. (9), i.e., $\mathbf{H}_{s1}^T(\tilde{\delta} + \mathbf{G}\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{f}_{s1}$, $\mathbf{H}_{s2}^T(\tilde{\delta} + \mathbf{G}\mathbf{w}) =$
456 \mathbf{f}_{s2} , ... pointing to the directions of the desired sources. These constraints can also be com-
457 bined into one. More information can be found in the linear constraint minimum variance
458 beamforming algorithm (Van Trees, 2002; Van Veen and Buckley, 1988).

459 The desired sound and the noise can be from the same direction. This can happen when
460 either both sources are located in the same direction, or the noise source is in another
461 direction but the reverberation of the noise is mixed with the desired source. This problem
462 requires further investigation. Possible solutions may be found in the field of *Blind Source*
463 *Separation*. Studies such as (Mukai *et al.*, 2006) can separate mixed signals even when two
464 sources come from the same direction.

465 The demonstrated system was a pair of open-fitting AR glasses, which allows the system
466 to be fully coupled, that is, all the microphones to be used for both ANC and the spatial
467 constraint. Another ANC application, for example, a pair of close-fitting ANC headphones,
468 may not be able to use error microphones in the earcups for the spatial constraint since the
469 disturbance signals are highly attenuated. Using all the microphones may not provide any
470 significant improvements. Therefore, using a partially coupled system can reduce computa-
471 tion.

472 The secondary sources in such a personal AR glasses system are miniaturized speakers.
473 The proposed system only needs to cancel the noise, so the transducer excursion limit can
474 be relaxed. This is favorable in acoustic transducer designs. However, the response of
475 miniaturized speakers can still be sub-optimal at some frequencies, which can affect the
476 system control performance. Therefore, the secondary path in this article was from the
477 COMSOL simulation with an ideal sound source to eliminate this factor for the purpose of
478 brevity. Other applications, such as ANC headrests or ANC windows, which can also adopt
479 the proposed algorithm, may not have this issue since the loudspeakers are not necessarily
480 required to be miniaturized.

481 The acoustic feedback from the secondary sources to reference microphones can affect the
482 system significantly in practice. It should be considered in the future.

483 VI. CONCLUSION

484 In this article, we have presented a spatially selective ANC system that truly preserves the
485 desired sound rather than canceling it and then reconstructing it again. The Frost spatial
486 constraint was imposed on the cost function of a traditional hybrid ANC system, and both
487 the optimal and the adaptive solutions were derived. The method was examined in a pair
488 of AR glasses with six microphones. Overall, the system exhibited good performance in
489 controlling noise coming from undesired directions. The SNR was improved from -13.9 dB
490 to 15.2 dB while the SDI was kept at -25.1 dB. The system could also maintain good
491 robustness when it was disastrously perturbed. Even when the signal mismatch level was
492 30 dB higher than that of the desired signal, by choosing the regularization factor based

493 on the largest eigenvalue, the noise could still be controlled by 24.3 dB and the SDI was
 494 maintained at -22.5 dB. However, the directivity was bound by the causality of the ANC
 495 system, which mainly depended on the array configuration.

496 Compared to the state-of-the-art systems, the desired sound in the proposed system was
 497 indeed preserved while noise from other directions was minimized. The proposed system used
 498 much less control effort while still achieving the best ANC performance since it controlled
 499 only the noise instead of noise plus speech. Furthermore, when the original desired speech
 500 at the error microphone is preserved, there is no need to reconstruct the natural binaural
 501 localization cues as in other systems. Future work includes considering acoustic feedback
 502 control and examining the system in a non-ideal environment, e.g., in a reverberant room.

503 APPENDIX A: OPTIMAL SOLUTION DERIVATION

By taking the gradient of Eq. (9) and using the chain rule (Petersen and Pedersen, 2012),
 it is found that

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{w}} J = \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{u}} = \mathbf{G}^T (\Phi_{\mathbf{xx}} \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{H} \lambda). \quad (\text{A1})$$

Setting the gradient of the cost function to zero, the optimal solution can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{w}_{\text{opt}} &= -(\mathbf{G}^T \Phi_{\mathbf{xx}} \mathbf{G})^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T (\Phi_{\mathbf{xx}} \tilde{\delta} + \mathbf{H} \lambda) \\ &= -\left(\Phi_{\mathbf{rr}}^{-1} \phi_{\mathbf{rd}} + \Phi_{\mathbf{rr}}^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} \lambda \right), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A2})$$

where $\mathbf{r}(n) = \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{x}(n)$, $\Phi_{\mathbf{rr}} = E \{ \mathbf{r}(n) \mathbf{r}^T(n) \}$ and $\phi_{\mathbf{rd}} = E \{ \mathbf{r}(n) d(n) \}$. The Lagrangian λ
 can be found by putting Eq. (A2) in the spatial constraint $\mathbf{H}^T (\mathbf{G} \mathbf{w}_{\text{opt}} + \tilde{\delta}) = \mathbf{f}$,

$$\lambda = \left(\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \Phi_{\mathbf{rr}}^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} \right)^\dagger \left[(\mathbf{H}^T \tilde{\delta} - \mathbf{f}) - \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \Phi_{\mathbf{rr}}^{-1} \phi_{\mathbf{rd}} \right], \quad (\text{A3})$$

504 where superscript $(\cdot)^\dagger$ denotes pseudoinverse. Matrix \mathbf{G} is rank deficient due to the delays
 505 in the secondary paths in the ANC system. Note that the autocorrelation matrix of the
 506 filtered reference signals $\Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}$ is typically full rank and thus is invertible.

Using Eqs. (A2) and (A3), the optimal solution can be found as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{w}_{\text{opt}} = & - \left[\mathbf{I} - \Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} \left(\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} \right)^\dagger \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \right] \Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1} \phi_{\mathbf{r}d} \\ & + \Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} \left(\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \Phi_{\mathbf{r}\mathbf{r}}^{-1} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} \right)^\dagger \left(\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{H}^T \tilde{\delta} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4})$$

507 written in a compact form. Note that $\mathbf{f} \neq \mathbf{H}^T \tilde{\delta}$. Otherwise, it would imply $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$ from the
 508 cost function in Eq. (9).

509 APPENDIX B: ADAPTIVE SOLUTION DERIVATION

The adaptive solution of \mathbf{w} in the proposed method can be found using the LMS method
 as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{w}(n+1) &= \mathbf{w}(n) - \mu \nabla_{\mathbf{w}} J \\ &= \mathbf{w}(n) - \mu \mathbf{G}^T (\Phi_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{H} \lambda). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B1})$$

510 Using Eq. (3i), the constraint has

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f} &= \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{u}(n+1) \\ &= \mathbf{H}^T [\mathbf{G} \mathbf{w}(n+1) + \tilde{\delta}] \\ &= \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{w}(n) - \mu \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T [\Phi_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{H} \lambda(n)] + \mathbf{H}^T \tilde{\delta}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B2})$$

Putting $\lambda(n)$ from Eq. (B2) in Eq. (B1), it becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{w}(n+1) &= \mathbf{w}(n) - \mu \mathbf{G}^T \Phi_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{u} \\
&\quad - \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H})^\dagger \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{w}(n) \\
&\quad + \mu \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H})^\dagger \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T \Phi_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{u} \\
&\quad + \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H})^\dagger (\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{H}^T \tilde{\delta}).
\end{aligned} \tag{B3}$$

511 Using Eq. (2) and rearranging Eq. (B3), it becomes

$$\mathbf{w}(0) = \mathbf{q}, \tag{B4a}$$

512

$$\mathbf{w}(n+1) = \mathbf{P} [\mathbf{w}(n) - \mu \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{x}(n) e(n)] + \mathbf{q}, \tag{B4b}$$

513 where

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H})^\dagger \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G}, \tag{B5a}$$

514

$$\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{H})^\dagger (\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{H}^T \tilde{\delta}). \tag{B5b}$$

515

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